LCGCC Recommendations submitted by Dee Eggers (General Policy Recommendations) - February 5, 2010

General Policy Recommendations

The General Assembly may consider the following policy opportunities to decrease GHG emissions and increase sequestration at such time as they are determined to be beneficial to the economy and citizens of North Carolina

- 1. Require and truly enforce more comprehensive lifecycle cost calculations for energy consumption by new buildings.
- 2. Provide financial support for state agencies to invest in conservation and efficiency by allowing them to retain a portion of the savings.
- 3. Invest in job creation through conservation and efficiency programs.
- 4. Simplify considerably the net-metering sign up process and significantly increase the kWh purchase price for energy from renewable sources under that program.
- 5. Require local governments in the coastal plain to prepare plans detailing how they will adapt to decreased tax revenue as sea-level increases one meter by 2100.
- 6. Change DOT long-range planning for new road construction and road-widening so it reduces annual vehicle miles traveled and anticipates population densities that can support public transportation.
- 7. Evaluate and revise Utilities Commission guiding language for electric utilities to significantly increase their investment in conservation, efficiency, and renewable energy sources.
- 8. Increase implementation and enforcement of existing policies that promote conservation and efficiency.
- 11. Allow utilities to make higher profit from kilowatts saved than kilowatts generated, e.g., through efficiency and conservation programs.
- 12. Require faster adoption of the International Building Code. (North Carolina lags behind other states in the time it takes to adopt the International Building Code.)
- 13. Encourage or provide incentives for switching from electric to gas appliances due to differences in delivered efficiency.
- 14. Support a mandate to significantly improve vehicle fuel efficiency in state and local fleets and encourage alternative fuel vehicles, including CNG vehicles.
- 15. Recommend establishment of a permanent climate commission and separate technical advisory body.